

King County Solid Waste Advisory Committee

April 16, 2010 - 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
King Street Center 8th Floor Conference Room
Next SWAC meeting – May 21, 2010 - 9:30-11:30

Meeting Minutes

<u>Members</u>
David Baker
William A. Beck
Joe Casalini
Bob Dixon
Sean Kronberg
Suellen Mele
Philipp Schmidt-Pathmann
Relaena Sindelar
Judy Stenberg
Dave Whitley

<u>Others</u>
Cynthia Adams, Teamsters Local Union 117
Chace Anderson; Gershman, Brickner & Bratton, Inc.
Ed Davis, Public Health Seattle King County
Scott DuBoff, Garvey Schubert Barer
Jeff Gaisford, Recycling and Environmental Services Manager
Richard Gelb, DNRP Performance Management Lead
Harvey Gershman; Gershman, Brickner & Bratton, Inc.
Kathy Hashagen, SWD Staff
Kevin Kiernan, Division Director
Bill Lasby, Public Health Seattle King County
Laura Moser, Waste Management
Peggy Papsdorf, Suburban Cities Association
Fabio Scandella, Bechtel
Helmut Schnurer, BMU
Grace Reamer, King County Council Staff
Diane Yates, Intergovernmental Liaison

Approve March Meeting Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of the March SWAC meeting passed by general consent.

In response to a question about HB2530 –Optimizing collection of source separated materials - Gaisford said the residual funds are returned to customers by offsetting the cost of collection.

Updates: SWD/MSWMAC/Other

The Washington State Department of Ecology (WSDOE) has begun the process of updating Washington's main environmental law related to solid waste - Chapter 70.95 of the Revised Code of Washington. To gather input for the update, Ecology has planned a series of public meetings. Two of the meetings will be held in the 8th floor conference room of the King Street Center on May 12th. The first is from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. and the second is from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. More information is available at <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/pubs/1007015.pdf>

The Solid Waste Division will be hosting a public meeting that same evening from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. about the Factoria Transfer Station Facility Master Plan (FMP). The meeting will be held at the East Shore Unitarian Church at 12700 SE 32nd Street, Bellevue. The event will include an open house from 6:00 – 7:00 and a presentation from 7:00 to 8:30.

King County and the Cascadia Region Green Building Council are co-hosting a green building conference on Wednesday, May 5th from 8:45 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Bellevue City Hall. Information about the conference was distributed at the meeting. More information is available at <http://cascadiagbc.org/living-future/10/greentools-government-confluence>.

At the time of this meeting, service by haulers to citizens continues. Though a new contract between Local 174 and Allied Waste has been ratified, negotiations between Waste Management and Local 174 continue.

SWD is hopeful the issues can be resolved without service disruption. However, SWD has prepared contingency plans including establishing safe locations to picket and neutral gates at most SWD sites. SWD has worked with Public Health of Seattle/King County to ensure their access to sites during labor actions and to extend the operating hours at Cedar Hills if it is needed as a result of service disruption.

Membership

Joe Casalini and Tim Crosby were reappointed to SWAC on April 5th and 12th respectively. Sean Kronberg and Judy Stenberg's reappointments are on the Council's consent agenda for Monday, April 19. Hilary King's appointment was referred to (what) on April 12th.

Three SWAC positions remain open; a manufacturer in King County, a representative of the recycling industry and a citizen's position. Casalini and Stenberg interviewed Jean Garber for the citizen's position. She has an impressive resume' and they found her to be highly qualified. The committee voted to nominate Jean Garber for appointment.

SWAC 2010 Work Plan and Meeting Schedule

SWD has drafted a SWAC work plan for the balance of the year for the committee's review. The work on the Solid Waste Transfer and Waste Management Plan and the comp plan have been the primary topic of SWAC meetings over the past few years. With that work completed, the group may choose to add content or perhaps meet less frequently.

SWAC has chosen to have a retreat in lieu of their June meeting. Members agreed that a tour will replace the July meeting. Yates will contact members to determine their interest in various tour locations and arrange tours for both SWAC and MSWMAC.

A member told the committee that tours of recycling related facilities are also available through the Washington State Recycling Association. SWD said that the division is always happy to provide tours of Cedar Hills or other SWD facilities; either through the advisory groups or in response to a request. Contact Yates to request a tour.

A member suggested adding a discussion of how waste prevention will be implemented in accordance with the comp plan to the work plan.

King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks Strategic Plan

In November 2008, the County Council directed the Executive to draft a countywide strategic plan based on the values and priorities of residents (Ordinance 16202: 2008 Performance and Accountability Act). King County gathered input from stakeholders through resident surveys, community meetings, employee surveys and more to create the King County Strategic Plan.

The King County Strategic Plan is intended to communicate the county's vision and direction; inform policy, operational and budget decisions; provide a structure to ensure accountability and strategic management; and signify the county's commitment to customer service. More

information about the county's strategic plan is available at
<http://www.kingcounty.gov/exec/strategy/StrategicPlan/CountyStratPlan.aspx>

The next step is for each department to prepare a strategic plan that supports the King County plan. Richard Gelb, DNRP Performance Measurement Lead attended the SWAC meeting to gather input about the following topics for the DNRP Strategic Plan.

- customer service
- internal coordination
- working with partners
- equity and fairness in service levels

Input included:

- Using neighborhood blogs should be encouraged. Using a neighborhood blog to communicate about the West Seattle waste water project was very successful.
- King County Parks levy is not resulting in sufficient Parks maintenance and efforts to allow volunteers to help through cities (instead of King County) have not been allowed. Currently, work with Parks is constrained to go through King County instead of cities because of labor contracts.
- The “What do I do with...” website is very effective.
- Consider a website that includes area recycling guides. Consider a zip code or area based guide to what services are available at transfer stations.
- It's hard to find websites for each division. Consider websites or face book pages that go directly to the division instead of through the department.
- Ask for feedback from citizens by doing a survey via the internet. Consider disseminating survey links to blogs.
- Utilize Cedar Hills and other SWD properties for recreational opportunities.
- Partner with local jurisdictions (if labor contracts allow) to encourage cooperation and support volunteer work.
- Encourage volunteers by changing the RFP requirements so the rules do not preclude those volunteers from contracting with the county while they are members of county boards.
- SWD partnerships with non-profit groups work well. Groups maintain equestrian trails on SWD property, arrange for model airplane flights, and build and maintain softball fields in addition to the Master Recycler Composters (MRC) program.
- SWD works successfully with local business as evidenced by the “Bag the Bag” program.
- SWD should consider ways of increasing the involvement of manufacturers/producers in waste management discussions, particularly as a method to address waste reduction.
- SWAC doesn't have an equity component to membership. Consider that idea in recruitment for SWAC and other advisory boards.
- Be aware of social justice issues in siting facilities.
- SWD needs to work with the WUTC to determine how to implement the parts of HB2531 –Optimizing collection of source separated materials – which allows the WUTC to adopt lower rates for low income and low income senior customers.

Committee members questioned how to measure the progress of the strategies listed in the DNRP strategic plan. Gelb said a method has yet to be determined but directed members to the DNRP performance measurement website to see examples of other departmental measures.

<http://your.kingcounty.gov/dnrp/measures/performance/default.aspx>

DNRP will generate strategies from comments received and will distribute them back to this group for input later in the summer. Further comments may be sent to

Richard.Gelb@kingcounty.gov

Open Forum

Schmidt-Pathmann invited members to attend a solid waste panel discussion on waste-to-energy technology that is to be held in the King County Council chambers from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. today.